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MS 76
BX 3
NBK 2

Barboursville Notes
and
Various Others

P. S. Drown Letters

MS 76
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March 1, 1941

Valentine Leist

tf Mrs. Herold, wife of Policeman Herold, of Huntington should have a picture of him. I think his father was named Valentine Leist. Some of the family has the family album, possibly Mrs. (Cary) Lucy Peyton, my sister, of Huntington may have it. If not, Mrs. Herold has it.

The Southern Methodist Church stood beyond Ted Peytons. I went there to Sunday School when I was a small child. My mother and father lived adjoining it. General John S. Wither lived down stairs, during the Civil War, John Cyrus lived there afterward. Old John Mills lived across Water Street, in a large two-story log house, with a chimney on the end toward the river.

Father worked in the Tannery. My house stands just where the Tannery vats stood. The Tan Yard Branch ran past the Tannery, but we bought out the heirs

and changed the creek. It used to make a turn and follow down the street, in front of my house, ^{toward center street, in a large frame,} and then go across the road. The Town later changed it. This frame house was the only house between us and the George Miller house. Later, we built the house where R. C. ^{Swann} ~~Miller~~ now lives, but he has improved it.

Ben Thaxton lived about where Mr. Mc Conkey now lives. He taught private school here. Mrs. Loua Holl also taught in Barboursville, for several years, and I went to school to her. Later Rev George? Young ("Mr. Young") taught here and preached in the Southern Methodist Church. I went several years to John Wigal. I was born Feb. 22, 1866, married Isaac Newton Famine Feb. 21, 1894. He was born Nov. 22, 1866, and died Dec. 14, 1939.

We have three children:

1. Lillian Fannin

b.

She married Clarence T. Hallman of Morgantown, North Carolina. He was a metal lathing, and plastering contractor.

2. Chester Newton Fannin

b.

m. Verman Hamlin of Huntington. They have two sons:

Chester Fannin Jr.

Donald Fannin

3. Flora Fannin

b.

m. Paul Thornburg, son of John W. Thornburg of Thornburg Farm.

The Salmon Family.

Joel and Roxy Salmon lived at East Bloomfield, New York.

They had a son, Joel Kellogg Salmon Jr., born at East Bloomfield Dec. 25, 1829. He was baptized by Rev. Mr. Hill, and died, in Huntington, W. Va., May 2, 1897, at 67 years, four months, and seven days. He married Martha A. Blake, daughter of Peter and Sarah Blake, at Cincinnati, Ohio, Feb. 22, 1855.

By Rev. Mr. Denison. Martha A. Blake was born, in Cabell County, W. Va., April 25, 1837. She died, at Barboursville Feb. 9, 1892, at 54 yrs. 9 months, and 14 days.

Their children were:

Albert Eugene Salmon born in Barboursville, Feb. 22, 1857. He married Cora Johnson Baldwin at Huntington, W. Va.

2. William Salmon born in
Barboursville, Va., July 6, 1859,
died in Barboursville, Va., Sept. 16,
1860, at 1 yr. 2 mos. and 10 days.

3. Edmund B. Salmon was born
in Barboursville Feb. 6, 1863, died
in Huntington Oct. 8, 1931. He
married Hattie Harrison, daughter
of William Henry Harrison of Cabell
Creek, at Ironton, Ohio. July
16, 1896, By Rev. Geyer.

4. Mary E. Salmon was born,
in Barboursville, Sept. 2, 1865,
was Baptized, in 1885, by
Rev. Moore. She married Wil-
liam M. Kelley, son of Edward
W. and Sarah Kelley, at Bar-
boursville, by Rev. J. W. Ramsey.
Mr. Kelley died, at Barbours-
ville Feb. 20, 1932, Aged 87-2-

5. Lucy A. Salmon was born, at Barboursville, June 22, 1868, was baptized, in 1885, by Rev. A. Moore. She died, in young womanhood, at Barboursville, Jan. 12, 1890, Aged 21 yrs. 6 mos. 21 days. She was never married.

6 Roxey Q. Salmon was born, in Barboursville April 25, 1876, baptized in February 1891, by South G. Preston. She married Rudence S. Douthat, son of Robert W. and Mary Jane Wells Douthat, at Ironton, Ohio, Dec. 27, 1894, by a Mr. Henry, a Justice of the Peace.

10²
National City, Cal., 4/9/14.

F. B. Lambert, Esq.,

Milton, W. Va.

My dear Sir:

Am in receipt of your letter of the 2nd inst, and hasten to comply with your request contained therein, to the best of my recollection. Tho' with no advantages of the Professor and Teacher in musical lore, yet introduction of the subject when the violin is brought forward as the dominant feature. I am profoundly stirred up. It would appear so at least, and with it regret intensified over lost opportunity "which might have been". Referring to the fiddlers of my early youth days, native or resident citizens of Cabell County, Va. I recall the names here given:

Anthony Riggs, "Samp" Johnson, George Stephens and Jim Peatt were best known, and figured during the 30s and 40s of the eighteenth century. In 1830 or 1840, also a negro owned by a farmer named McCollister or McAllister, of Upper Mud River. Known and spoken of as "McCollister Babe" or "Babe McAllister". Anthony Riggs favorite tune that I more distinctly remember than others he played was called "Ann Hays".. It was that fiddler's favorite tune, and made to suit the step and time for reels, and other "figures" so called. He played "Natchez Under the Hill" now known as "Turkey in the Straw" like all fiddlers of his class. Riggs carried in his head a somewhat more or less repertoire of tunes. "Samp" Johnson was the first fiddler I heard play the "Arkansas Traveler". It was above Bob McKendree's Tavern in Barboursville, on Main Street. Dust about four fathoms (dust measurements) deep. Mercury about the 90 degree mark, and the sun full at 2 o'clock that day. Court day. The Town was full of visitors, chiefly "hayseed", most of whom

were fully equipped for home when they could tear themselves away from "Samp" Johnson's music. I well remember the day. McKendree's second story porch was crowded with the audience. The fiddler's libations were frequent and full, it being but a step to Nicken Dress Bar, Dexter rectified 5¢ the drink, 25¢ the gallon, jug full. Price of the jug 12½¢. Usually a corn cob stopper. If the jug handle was off, which was often the case, a piece of plow line was hitched around the jug's neck and made a good substitute. It also furnished facilities for a second jug at the other end. All ropes usually had two ends. I think Roll Bias, who was a character in his day, lived far up Guyan River. Usually had business "at Court". He was prosperous, in a way. I think he paid for all the drinks flowing from the attraction furnished by Johnson's music in the street. Roll Bias was elected to and attended one session of the Legislature at Richmond. While endowed with good common sense, he could not write his own, nor any other name. Poor "Samp" Johnson came to his death at the Falls of Guyan when driving logs at high tide of the river, date not far from the time (1852) of my leaving the State. (Roland Bias not listed as Member of the Legislature).

George Stephens was a fiddler of wider reputation than most of those old time artists of the "fiddle and the bow". In his repertoire was "Bonaparte's Retreat from Moscow", "Bonapart Crossing the Rhine", "Cold, frosty morning" "Puncheon Floor", "Possum Creek", "Pop Goes the Weasel", "Pretty Betty Martin", "Carry Me Back to Old Virginia", "Hail Columbia", and "Star Spangled Banner". He had another tune and words "Big John", "Little John", "Big John Bailey". The tune Stephens seemed to "throw himself away" most on was the "Peach Tree". The meter and time governing this tune

permitted its use and adaptation for dance music, and applying a long drawn bow with correct harmony and concord of sound, he carried the listener away in dreamy thought and recollection. When about midnight after the day of the "Quilting", "Corn Husking" and "Log Rolling", when the "dance was on" Stephens, well soaked up on Dexter Rectified, would have his face turned over his right shoulder apparently as much asleep as awake, but never missing a note of the "Peach Tree", while the dancers would be "hoeing down" for dear life. All at once he would order "Promenade to Seats", cease playing, adjust himself in his seat and exclaim with energy "if I aint a lilter damme". Seemingly he was suddenly inspired with an exalter opinion of his greatness as a fiddler. As much as to say at the same time "and don't you all forget it". Then might resen his bow and break out with a few stanzas of "Puncheon Floor" or a tune he called "Soap Suds Over the Fence", to be followed by a slow tune, march to supper table in the kitchen, across the yard (It was a common thing in those dear old times, for the kitchen to be detached from the "big house").

Jim Peatt was a fiddler of fair attainments only as to the number of tunes. I only remember two that he played, "Bigeon on the Gate", "Indian Eat the Woodcock" (with words), and "Old Dan Tucker" with words and chorous, but they all played Tucker with the words and chorous. Tucker in the dance figure, was made to go it alone 'till the set would "promenade All", when Tucker might sail with a partner or might fail to make commention being tuckered for three or four sets.

Babe McCallister, a darkey, played the fiddle with the "free arm movement", the wrist joint only working, the elbow joint

only working, the elbow joint still, while the wrist joint was in active movement. To hear the coon on "Forked Deer", his favorite tune, and call the cotillion figure was a great treat. Could I have inherited such talent with my fondness of and for the violin, it would have been dead easy that I should tour the universe and earn a million playing only "Forked Deer" and "Peach Tree". Morton Milstead lived in Ohio. He would come over to Cabell, stay around a few days, in the early 30s I heard it said, and played the fiddle for the drinks, mostly. Milstead was rated as a high class musician, as I recollect the talk of him. Never heard Milstead play but once, and I well remember now after a lapse of 65 or 70 years that his performance was much below that of George Stephens, Antony Riggs, or "Gus" Johnson, from my viewpoint, at least. About the year 1846, a fiddler named Joblin. Dark-skinned, "French-Italian" look about him. An educated fiddler and dancing master. He came over from Ohio to teach dancing. He had no success to speak of. He told a story of giving lessons to a girl at her mother's home. The mother was very anxious that her daughter should learn dancing and waltzing. They invited a young man in for a partner to the girl. The couple were on the floor, and the mother as prompter to the girl, took a position. Joblin playing the violin and giving instructions. The mother also trying to direct the steps of her daughter correctly and humming the tune at the same time. When it came to joining hands partners to serving and promenade, the mother, in a sort of frenzy like, appealed to the girl thus: "Daughter, why don't you take hold of the gentleman's "doodledum, doodledum, doo". She couldn't take hold of the gentleman's hand", keep step to the tune she was humming which Joblin was playing. The girl broke and ran out of

the house. The mother looked embarrassed, and the instructor placed his violin and bag in the green bag, and making an appointment for next lesson, excused himself and retired till that date, and thus ended the first lesson as stated by Joblin, who was an educated violinist, and also probably accomplished as a teacher of the Art terpsichore. It was charming to me, at least to listen to Joblin's refined music and after hearing him as often as I could have the opportunity, and I scarcely let the opportunity pass and not hear him. My zeal to accomplish anything on my own violin would go down much like the mercury in a Texas or Kansas "norther" (when sheep had been known to freeze to death with their coat of wool yet on their backs). The average native of Cabell County at the period of which I am writing, would be far more entertained listening to George Stephen's "Possum Creek" or "Soap Suds over the Fence", or "Peach Tree" as he played it by ear, than Joblin's classics renored from book Clythe Masters.

There were other fiddlers of less note than those I have named. Ike Handley and Jim Wilcot, who lived below Guyan, seven or eight miles were of the class with Jim Peatt, as I now regard them and recall their fiddling. I am just here reminded of a man named Turner whom we had in jail when my father was High Sheriff of the county, he, Turner, also arrested on a charge of stealing a horse on which to ride home. He had been traveling in the far West, had run through with his ready cash assets and too proud to write his people living in Baltimore for money. Turner adopted the scheme of act of horse stealing right soon after getting off a boat at Guyandotte. He made Bill Merritt's Tavern in Barboursville the first lap en route to Baltimore. Was arrested there and jailed only a few hours after landing from the boat at Guyandotte. Turner was well

Was an accomplished gentleman and accomplished fiddler and violinist I well remember my fathers fascination by Turner both as a gentleman and accomplished fiddler and as a musician. Father took me to Turner's room in the old log constructed jail, introduced me, and engaged Turner to play his violin and sing. He sang the "Star Spangled Banner" and "Mary of Argyle". I had never heard the latter song. I never forgot Turner's effort nor did I lose the impression on me by his vocal and instrumental accomplishments. Turner made friends with every man, woman, or child who visited him at the jail. My father I well remember, as taking much interest in Turner's predicament and deeply sympathizing with him what the routine employed was, to obtain his liberty from jail and release from the horse stealing charge. I have forgotten, but think he received such help from home and legal talent among Cabell County's lawyers as enabled him to avoid coming to trial on the charge. The array of lawyers was not surpassed in any community. Henry Fisher, of Mason County, Joseph E. Mansfield, E.W. McComas, Jim Ferguson of Cabell, and Ermont Ward, of Logan are some of the most brilliant of the legal profession I now recall; but just which one Turner engaged I have forgotten--if I ever knew. While Turner was not a citizen born in Cabell, yet he had a good, long residence in the penal hostelry, about two, may have been three months, conducted by Deputy Sheriff at that time Antony Shelton, assisted by his family, all of whom lived in the jail building, and furnished bed and board to the High Sheriff at his option. For their pro rata of rent the jailer was paid for the keep of all jail birds(?) by the County, State, or individual, whichever was liable, or might be. Between the years 1852 and 1856 sometime, the name "Turner" appeared in Cincinnati, where I was employed as a bookkeeper in a commission house, in the employ of a

showman named Stix as a vocalist, his specialty being "Mary of Argyle and other songs popular with the public, including Key's ever patriotic "Star Spangled Banner".

As brief as I can make it, I will give an account of my own career as a fiddler, which is of little merit, yet would appear to be in order to detail here with other reminiscent memories.

Early in the 40s my father said to me: "Perl would you like to learn to play the fiddle?" I was in my thirteenth year I think. "Yes sir, I certainly would" was about my reply. I think my exact words. He went on at some length in extolling the virtues of the violin--how a fiddler could elevate himself socially, and even become a great and popular personage. I have no idea he had ever listened to Joblin or Turner at that time, and certainly not an Ole Bull, or other high class performers, "Bonaparte's Retreat" and "Money Musk", also the "Irish Washerwoman" were his special tunes to listen to. He then said: "Take this \$3.00 and get Vere or Gus Wolcott, who kept the wharfboat at Logan, to send to Cincinnati and get the best instrument the \$3.00 will buy, and you can begin and try and learn". I took the money. Wolcott sent and got the instrument, and I was not long "to try and learn to play on it". The employment of a teacher was out of the question. Not to be thought of. We lived far in the back country, too far from where an instructor of the violin ever came. Could never have paid the tuition of an instructor could have been engaged, but the husband of a negro woman and two children my father had bought at a public sale of the property of Joe Gardner, dec'd at Guyan, was a fiddler. My father hired the husband every winter to work on the farm. Same became my teacher. I watched his fingers as he played "Old Grimes", and by timing the fingers and getting the tune effectively fixed

in mind it was not long until I could actually play "Old Grimes" myself, by which time I could also "tune up" the instrument. The worst was over. By listening at Geo. Stephens, and every other fiddler and every other fiddler in hearing that came along the road, closely watching Sam's fingers and hearing him play every rainy day that we wouldn't work on the farm, and every night, rain or dry. In four to six months I could play any slow tune and the "Peach Tree" for a dance. For a cotillion I could play one tune, "Rose in the Mountain".

On an occasion, I think it was near 1846, a popular blacksmith and farmer named Stonebreaker who lived out on Beech Fork wanted to give the young people a party. So, he gathered his corn crop, hauled it into the barn, and appointed a day for the husking. "Corn shucking" it was called. The day for the corn shucking was Saturday. George Stephens was sought for, but was away and could not be got for time. Walcott lived twenty miles away, and was not known much anyway. Molstead lived in Ohio, fifteen miles, or more. Joblin lived at Gallipolis, thirty miles up the Ohio, too. Hence, he was not available. I had no reputation as a fiddler, and Sam could not leave home--his wife was expecting to be sick of another kid--when it seemed that no fiddler of any known qualification could be engaged. A messenger was sent for me to ascertain if I would come, the time being short. I readily assented. Nothing said about the fiddler's fee for the service. On the day set I done up the fiddle in my overcoat, and strapping it behind my saddle, mounted "Dave" a very comely animal and away to Stonebreaker's. Afternoon I went nine or ten miles. Made the trip in good shape, arriving as big as life, fiddle and all.

The husking of the corn concluded, the next order of business was to dance to precede it, and it did. The figures chiefly danced were "Virginia Reel", "French Four", and "Dan Tucker". I could only play the "Peach Tree" in fairly good shape for dancing; and the "Peach Tree" it was for all night, except for supper. We adjourned for about an hour. Then on with the dance for the balance of the night. For this service I received all that was collected, 75¢, fifteen times five cents in 5¢ pieces. Silver coins of U.S. of A. mintage; but like George Stephens I felt that I, too, was a lilter. That was my very first playing for the dance. That was fully 68 years ago.

In 1854 I obtained another and superior instrument that, figuring some time ago how many miles I had carried that violin, it amounted to some 38,000 miles.

I might extend this for pages farther, but I have already exceeded the limit, writing much that is not relevant, or extraneous matter which it seemed I couldn't help, in order to complete the narration. I have endeavored by punctuation to make plain and comprehensive as I could, with the time I could give. The newspaper clippings enclosed I will ask that you please return at your convenience and hoping that taking the whole you will find something to assist your historic effort as putting Cabell County and Barboursville in historic point.

P. S. Drown.

"Carry me back to Old Virginia", "Hail Columbia", and "Star Spangled Banner". He had another tune and words "Big John, Little John, Big John Bailey". The tune Stephens seemed to throw himself away on most was the "Peach Tree". The meter and time governing this tune permitted it to be adaptable for dance music.

During the 30s and 40s Anthony Riggs, "Samp" Johnson, George Stephens and Jim Peatt were the best known old fiddlers. A negro known as "McCallister Babe" or "Babe McCallister", was a famous player. He was owned by a farmer named McCallister of Upper Mud River. Anthony Riggs' favorite tune was called "Ann Hays". It was made to suit the step and time for reels and other figures. so called. Like all fiddlers of his class, he played "Nachez Under the Hill", now known as "Turkey in the Straw".

"Samp" Johnson played the "Arkansas Traveler". One of his favorite places to play was at McKendree's Tavern in Barboursville. His favorite for playing was during Court days, when fiddler's drinks were full and plentiful. He came to his death at the Falls of Guyan when driving logs at high tide of the river about 1852.

Roll Bias, who was a character in his day, lived far up Guyan River. He usually had business "at Court". He was rather prosperous, and on occasions of this kind, usually paid for the drinks required to set off Johnson's music in the street. While endowed with good common sense he could neither write his own or any other name. Yet, he was elected to the Legislature at Richmond.

George Syepkens was a fiddler of wider reputation than most of the old time artists of the "fiddle and the bow". In his repertoire were "Bonaparte's Retreat from Moscow", "Bonaparte Crossing the Rhine", "Cold, Frosty Morning", "Puncheon Floor", "Possum Creek", "Pop Goes the Weazel", "Pretty Betty Martin"

Wm. Miller.

STAGE DRIVERS.

Old man Vandiver was a member of the stage company, and drove stages sometimes. He was from Greenbrier and afterward moved to Guyandotte. They carried the mail. This was about 1850, and the Postmaster's commissions one quarter were \$3.65. Address Mrs. Boland at Henderson, C/o Mrs. Hicks. Bert Russell, at Guyandotte, was a driver. A Mr. Tincher was a driver, also and lately lived near Buffalo, W. Va.

The first teacher that I recollect was Charley Simpson. He taught in the old Court House sixty-two, or sixty-three years ago. He was strict. Wm. Miller and Chas. Miller went there

They used to sing Geography the capitals, State of Maine, Augusta on the Kennebec River only about a half.

O.S. Mills, George Thornburg, Wm. Martin, Wm. Miller and George Merritt went to this school.

Leander Fry used to come down from Lincoln on timber to to play the fiddle. He was a great fiddler. Jack McComas was an old fiddler, as was also his brother.

Mose Thornburg said that a man who wouldn't fight to the music made by the musicians of the musters had no fight in him.

Wm. Collins was a fifer. John Reece was a tenor drummer, Clarke Thurston a base drummer. On muster days whiskey, ginger ales, cider, &c were plentiful. Hogs were fattened on the way East. That wore the valley out.

Bessie stayed in Art Dep't nine years.

Dr. Skinner Lored, Texas.

Prof. Hampton died of throat trouble shortly after leaving here, in North Carolina.

Two Englishmen, Dr. David Turner and Octavious Church, father of Wm. Church, came here about 1845 from England, and settled on the Ohio River, about the mouth of Nine Mile. They had an idea the country was full of savages. They brought all kinds of guns. Came to town about 1850. Had a Fort on the Ohio River. Church was related to some of the best English people in England. He was a student. They became related to the Merritts. Turner also married a Merritt.

I have seen a steer in shafts pulling an immigrant wagon to the "West". Stage horns blew when in the suburbs of town.

Capt. Jenkins was the largest slave owner.

C.L. Roffe,

John Morris,

Sampson Saunders,

Martin Moore,

Geo. Kilgore (Miller farm) 10-15..

Reces,

Morrises,

James (Malcolm farm),

Chas. Morris,

Sol. Thornburg.

Many negroes thought they were not free until they got to Ohio.

Many left

-Shelton-

Negroes that were sold were of a criminal class. Hotels, saloons, &c. were only benefits by Court House. College at first was a stock company. They gave all their stock to college.

A citizen's meeting was held at Court House

Robert Dillon -- (B.F.Dillon).

My grandfather John (?) or Jonathan) came from Vieginia via. Kanawha about 1840 and settled at, or near Guyandotte.

Agriculture.

Wheat. Not much raised, but all s aved.

1. Reap hook, or sickle and cradles,
2. Threshed with flail,
3. Threshed with "Tramping ~~Flail~~".

Usually on ground; sometimes in barn. Boys rodé horses in circle. Cleaned with sheet, sometimes a few turned by a crank. Next the old chaff piler and fan. Next the separator. Later the steam thresher.

Plows; Nearly all used shovel plows. Bull tongues in ~~new~~ ground. Ground cleared late was not plowed; simply laid off. A few had turning plows with wooden mould boards.

Jellies, canned fruits, &c. were usual. Everyone had mortars to pound hominy, meal, &c. A hole was burned in a log and a sweep made. The hole was dressed with an axe. We made much sugar. Mrs. France says she has known her mother to stay in the sugar camps seven days and nights. Many had biscuits once a week--Sunday morning. People would not, at first, eat tomatoes and never canned them. There was much dried fruit. Woods were full of wild hogs.

Solomon Thornburg lived at Claude Thornburg's place. He was the father of Thomas T.. He was a fine man. Stephen Spurlock died of a cancer. Lafe, Alex. and Jeff Samuels were sons of John Samuels. They had some sisters.

Candles were made by women in the fall and hung on dogwood branches. Mrs. France has candle molds, a loom, a big wheel, a little wheel, a check reel, a hackle, a wooden churn. Weaving was usually done in the fall or the winter.

Woe to the housewife not prepared.

Churns were made of wood tapering towards the top and hooped with wooden hoops. Bird Hensley run a carding machine at Sander's Mill. Women worked at night after the children were put to bed. Kerosene came into use about the time of the civil war. A brass lamp with no chimney--Mrs. France.

Uncle Bob---My father was a shoemaker and made me hold the pine torch a many a night sleepless and weary.

The first blacksmith shop I recollect was at Cross Roads, kept by Blackie Ward, I believe. Two wheeled ox carts were used. A bed was pinned on it.

The first buggy I recollect seeing. Johnny Laidley went to Wayne C.H. in buggy. They bladed and topped the corn. Pulled the ears off and then had a husking bee. Had Captains, and shucked a race. Everybod had their trundle beds. Stock was marked. An instance: A crop and a slit on right ear; a hole in left ear. Cattle stood out in all winter of weather.

Life of a Boy: He went barefooted until Christmas, and one pair of shoes did him. Stonebruises. Gof wood; built fires; hunted stock; went to mill. I have left Sander's Mill at midnight, forded the river, and followed a path up Paul Davis Point down by the "shoot" and on to Four Pole at mouth of Grape Vine. The owls were a terror.

We got our grinding by turns, and when the water was low she ground slow. The old log church at Bowen was was half in Cabell, and half in Wayne. For amusement we fought, parched corn, played marbles, wrestled, gathered nuts of all kinds. Went without hats until 12. A hat maker made wool hats, caps, &c at the mouth of Russell Creek, on Gates' place. Prices were 50¢ to \$1.00.

Dishes were plain. Cups instead of glass. They were cheaper. No washboards. Lye soap. Used a board to beat clothes with. Later, washboards were made of soft wood and sold for 5¢ each.

---Mrs. France. Mat Knight made them.

Old Fiddlers: George Stephens and Wiley, ---Joplin, Guyandotte (?). In later days Morris Wentz and Ben France.

Mrs. France: Girls had one pair of shoes a year. They carried them to church. They worked in the cornfield in summer. In winter they were given tasks at spinning, &c. We were often put to bed in day so the weaving could go on. If she got a calico dress she had to earn it making sugar, weaving, &c. I never had a calico dress until I was some size. I remember the kind. Linset was worn in winter. Linen worn in summer. The women made the linen. The men hunted in winter. I never saw an overcoat nor underclothing for men: They wore hunting shirts, or wampuses with a belt. Calico, dresses were considered fine.

Breakfast in winter came before daylight, and in summer at day break. All had to rise. Church was once a month. I have gone via Tom's Creek to Howell's Mills to carding machine. Old Mr. Sam Williams lived on Tom's Creek and Perry Peyton on Fudge's Creek. The water of Tom's Creek was singularly clear.

They had "Muster day" at Barboursville at different times and every May they had "General Muster Day".

I moved to Long Branch forty-two years ago last October (1908) and there were but three houses on Long Branch---Jeff Bowen, William Elmore and Beamer Davis. John De Boyd lived where his son now lives, on other fork. The road to Guyandotte was bad. If we wanted to haul anything to Guyandotte we had to go a round-a-bout

way. It took two days. Many "pipe" staves and shaved hoops. The boys early learned to drive calves.

Weaving of Flax: Mrs. France.

1. Pull it up and spread it at once on some ground. It lays here until it cures and seed dries. Then, tie it up in bundles and take it to a log and pound off the seed with a club. Then again spread it thin on the ground until it rots. Then tie in bundles and then brake it. Scutch it on scutching board with scutching knives, then hackle it and twist in twists and it is ready for the little wheel. Then spin it on little wheels and and reel it off in hanks. Then boil in water and ashes, and then wash in the creek to get the ashes out, and then pound to make it soft.

When you "hackle" it you first get a coarse tow which is removed, and then a fine tow. The coarse tow is used for under bed ticks, and also for coarse dresses, sometimes. The fine tow was spun and woven on the flax chain for tow lines. This was used for men's pants, when lines shirts were made on cotton chain. Flax was raised until a few years ago on Beech Fork. They still weave carpets.

Cotton cloth was woven in the spring and checked off in several colors. I could weave ten yards of Linsey in a day. I wove one hundred, fifty yards of blankets on cotton chain in one winter for Charles Morris. At night Mr. Morris permitted us to play as long as we chose. We sometimes

in a sheet to imitate a ghost. In a dim light they looked frightful. Bonnets were worn by the girls. They were made of calico, gh

gingham, or cotton cloth. At about the beginning of the war they wore "shakers"; also "Sun-downs" with a very wide brim. Hemp was worked just like flax. It was made into ropes, bed cords, and cloth.

Rufus Hensley: Born in 1899--about correct.

I first went to an old English woman, Mrs. Frances Cook about 1857, at Pea Ridge. The house stood opposite Millard Thornburg lane. The next school was at the old Mt. Zion school on Pea Ridge to Ellen Hollenback. This was about 1859. There never was a school on Booten's Creek until after I was married. Neighbors built the first school on Davis Creek.

ANSWERS TO QUESTIONS IN W. VA. SCHOOL JOURNAL.
M. A. Perry.

3. There is a small mound on Joe (?) Cox's place. I have picked up flints everywhere, also on Mill Branch. I also have seen an Indian tomahawk. Hagley's had it. Sam Kyle, Sr. was a very old settler. He lived where Wilson Floyd now lives. I used to listen to him tell of Indian depredations along the river on boats for hours. He first settled at foot of Dogham at an early day.

5. The Kyles came from Pennsylvania. Hagleys from Virginia. The Knights from North Carolina. My father, also, Stokes County. There were only about twelve families on Seven Mile when we first came. I recollect when no one lived above Harrison Hagley's. Indians used to come through to lead mines at the Falls of Guyan. Deers, squirrels, turkey. Saw one bear in the woods. They were scarce, but deer were plentiful. Pheasants and wild cats, plenty. Catamounts--I never saw one. I have often heard wild cats and saw their tracks. Have heard there used to be a good many beavers along Guyan River.

About the close of the war between the states there were many deer at head of Nine Mile. I saw them there after the war. There was a bounty for fox scalps. The fur trade was important. It was carried to Barboursville.

7. Some used to go to Louisiana and work. Some chopped cord wood along the river. But most farmed and hunted. They farmed in summer, and hunted in the winter.

8. Merritt's Mill was built long before I was born. Howell's Mill was also very old.

The oldest building I know of is occupied by Abe Ansell on Greenbottom. Joe Cox's was standing in 1844.

Lewis Kelly, in Barboursville, was the first blacksmith shop near Ayer's Mill. Green Harris learned here. Kelly made horse shoe nails.

The road supervisor could "warn" out everyone to work roads. A fine was imposed on Supervisor's report and collected by the Sheriff at the time of payment of taxes.

10. At any stores. Barboursville, and other stores in villages. I only know of two country stores; one in "Dutchman Town" owned by a Dutchman on Union Ridge by the name of Sheitlan, and James Cushing, kept where Johnny Mehling now lives. Wagon makers made wagons. John Hivens, in Barboursville was one. Pack peddlers came once in a while. Canvassers, sometimes.

11. A wood chopping or working dance at night. A jug of liquor.

If the liquor ran out, they made up a course and sent to Barboursville after more. Almost all stores kept it. All was usually friendly. QUESTION: What was the license?

Singing schools since the war. Also before the war. Cooked mostly on cranes or rods on which a pot chain was attached. Stoves were scarce. Very little, if any fruit was canned but considerable was preserved. Few wells. Many spring houses.

12. The meeting house log house at Le Sage, Nine Mile Meetin' House and Seven Mile. Early preachers: Lancaster and McFarland, Lemma Cornwell. Camp meetings at Rome, Ohio, and on Mud River every year. Have heard of religious debates.

13. Henry Maupin, at Barboursville, was an old physician. McCullough was another. Doctors Moss, Chas. and Randolph Seashoal. Much fever and ague. As much consumption as now, according to population.

17. The old brick in Barboursville kept by John Merritt, William Merritt later to "Fatty Bum". George Thornburg's house is located on ruins. Whiskey by the barrel sold for 18¢ to 25¢ per gallon. Old Jimmy Knight had a distillery on Frank Le Sage's place years ago. No bars in those days: had quit in my day.

19. Snug Bias had one slave. Was a renter and lived where Will Kyle now lives. Old Bobby Holderby had a number. Dave Harshbarger had at least one. Most all the slaves have moved.

20. Wages 50¢ and board often 37½¢ in time of panic.

25. Dogs killed many sheep. More sheep then. They ran out.

26. Not much timbering. Peeled tan bark and cut hoop poles. They ran bark to Cincinnati. Hoopoles partly to Cincinnati. Me and entz's ran a boat-load of tan bark there in 1862. We got \$15.00 per cord. We came back on a steam boat.

In an old book dated 1835 called "gazetteer of Virginia and District of Columbia" under the Article "Cabell" I find the following description of Barboursville:

Barboursville contains, besides the usual county buildings twenty-five dwelling houses, Three mercantile stores, one common school, one extensive manufacturing flour mill, one tan yard, one hatter, two blacksmiths, one tailor, and various other mechanics. Population one hundred, fifty persons, of whom two are attorneys, and one a regular physician".

In those days transportation ~~was~~ ~~unimproved~~ were limited; hence, Barboursville ~~was~~ a manufacturing and commercial center. We find hatters, tanners, chair-makers, tailors, wagon smiths, gun smiths, and makers of old cored bedsteads. People came here to trade and dispose of their products from Logan, Lincoln and Wayne Counties, and from far up in the valley.

Jonathan Davis ran a fan mill factory, and kept three wagons on the road selling and delivering his products. A man named Richey made ever-lasting wool hats where Mrs. Harrison Dirton now lives. Tom Kyle, the gunsmith, lived and died on the site of Mrs. Shearer's present residence. An old German had a furniture factory on Water Street just beyond the Millard Thornburg house (G.G. Espe: I have a photo of him and an account). John Hibbens, who was an old wagon-maker, had his shop on the corner of Capt. Turner's lot just in front of Ben Swann's present residence. Home made jeans was an article of commerce, and the town was able to support two or three tailors.

W. C. Miller killed hundreds of hogs and traded the bacon for salt at the saltines. The hams and lard were shipped by water via Pittsburgh to Philadelphia.

Matt Thompson kept store on almost exactly the present site of the present Thornburg grocery run by Os Mills. It was perhaps a few feet nearer to the main Thornburg store. W. B. Moore had a store near the site of the bank. Miller & Henderson kept in a frame on the site of the present music hall. Later Miller and "Absalom" Holderby kept in the same building. Later Miller & Thornburg kept where George Thornburg now keeps. They bought wagon-loads of deer skins and deer hams, hundreds' being brought from Logan, and shipped them to Philadelphia. William Miller has an old invoice of the account of Miller & Holderby, amounting to \$23,000.00

Stephen Wicher and Anne, a negress. Kept ginger cakes and cider in the brick on the site of the old Stowasser Post Office. They sold on "Muster days". E.W. Blume kept a harness shop near the same place. Thomas Hatfield kept the first clothing store in town, just above the Martin restaurant, where Mr. Martin now lives. Irvin Lusher kept a store at the crossing on the corner of Water and Main Streets.

Wheat was a staple article, as was also feathers, rags, ginseng, and dried fruits. At times hundreds of bushels of dried peaches were sold here at \$1.00 the bushel and shipped to the Philadelphia market. Strained honey came in barrels from up the Guyan River. It sold at one dollar per gallon, and is said to have been fine. Bees wax was also sold in large quantity. It was used in making wax candles, and was legal tender at 25¢ per pound.

The merchants bought goods on a year's time, and sold them to nearly all the farmers on the same terms. They often took notes at the end of the fifth year, in case the farmer was

unable to pay; and sometimes continued the same for two or three years, after which they took mortgages. They bought home-made linsey and flax and tow lines made by the country women. These goods often came in fifty yard lengths, but the competition of modern machinery drove out all our manufactories and literally revolutionized our old customs.

The early pioneers had a civilization all their own. It was a natural out-growth of local conditions. Most of them were Virginians, and it is natural that they would bring with them their home customs. Hence, we find slavery a very prominent institution in this locality. Sampson Saunders, one of the incorporators of the town had over a hundred slaves just previous to the war. Slavery was a prominent institution here, although there were not many large slave holders. Jeremiah Ward was one of the earliest. Free negroes could only live in the community by the consent of the Court, and it was recorded that "Cuff Culwell, a man of color" purchased a lot. A little later negro Margaret applied for a permit to reside in the town, she having been freed by Jeremiah Ward for extraordinary services. As a rule the slaves here were well treated and seldom ran away. Even when they did it was not because of mistreatment, but because they wanted to be free. Most all the farmers living on the large farms had slaves. Perhaps William Jenkins, who lived on Greenbottom, had more than anyone else. Sampson Saunders and Shelton also owned many slaves. There were many owned by the people living on the Huntington bottoms. Mark Russell, Col. William Buffington, Mrs. Dr. Buffington, Mrs. John Laidley, Dr. Brown, James Holderby, P. C. Buffington, Dr. Paine, and others

owned a few each. In Siebert's History of the Underground Railroad" a map is given showing the routes through Ohio, followed by abolitionists with runaway slaves. One of these routes started at Burlington, just opposite Huntington, and others from South Point and Ironton. Most of the slaves traveling these routes came from distant points over the old Kanawha Road.

Many slaves were set free before the war. Sampson Saunders is said to have purchased farms in Michigan for his slaves. Rev. Stephen Spurlock, who lived at the Falls of Twelve Pole, had a slave named Jake and his wife named Lucy. They were reliable on the farm and in the mill. The mills were a great social center. The grinding was by turns, and in times of low water the turns came slowly. The people came to Merritt's mill for many miles, and it was a good place to hear the news. This old mill was established in 1801-2 by Capt. William Merritt, and was owned by some member of the Merritt family continuously until 1889, when it went out with the great flood of that date. At first it was merely a water grist mill and ground corn, only. Very little wheat was raised, as the mills could only grind it into Graham flour and this was dark and coarse. About this mill was rebuilt and it was a rather pretentious affair. It now ground both wheat and corn.

Another historic mill was located at Dusenberry's Dam. Joel Estes moved here about 180 and established a little mill which is often mentioned in the records. This afterwards came under the Ownership of Sampson Saunders and the Dusenberrys.

They had carding machines. This mill now became an important center. People came from Long Branch and Four Pole and even more distant points. Doolittle's Mill was located at

the Falls of Mud River. Rev. Stephen Spurlock had a little water mill at the Falls of Twelve Pole.

Wheat at first was threshed by a flail or long pole with which they pounded out the grain, It was cleaned by a sheet, or sometimes, by a fan turned by a crank. When the mills could not grind--and this happened very often--it was pounded in a mortar.

Barboursville, at first, was essentially a rural community. The houses in the country were of logs, usually round. The better class of people, like those who lived on the bottoms and plantations around Barboursville had homes that were built of new logs and floored with lumber cut by the old whip saws. In rare cases, only, did they have frame houses. Some of the houses outside the town limits were of much ruder construction. They were made of round logs, daubed with mud, floored with puncheons and roofed with clap boards weighted down with poles. Even to this day some of the houses in town that appear to be frame houses, are merely the old log houses, weather-boarded and ceiled. The Luster house which stands in the alley, near the old school building, is probably one of the oldest houses in the town, and is built entirely of logs and has an old fashioned clap board roof.

Windows were few, as glass was taxed by a special tax. Greased paper was sometimes used to admit light. The doors were hung on wooden hinges.

The furniture consisted of home-made beds, cupboards, stools, plain tables, and split bottom chairs. Every family had its loom with its "small" and "Large" wheel which furnished labor for the women, and clothing, blankets, &c. for the family. The family bedstead stood on hugh legs beneath which during the day was a trundle bed. This was brought forth at night for the children.

Cooking was on cranes hung over the fire in Dutch Ovens, or in skillet's with lids. Cooking stoves were scarce, even in town, while many people in the country never saw one until about the time of the Civil War, when the No. 7 Step stove was introduced.

No food was canned. Fruits, pumpkins, beans, &c. were strung on strings and dried over the fire. People would not eat tomatoes. They were called "Love apples".

Light was furnished by candles or pine torches. Kerosene did not come into use until after the civil war. Every family had its candle moulds. These candles were made of tallow, or of tallow and bees wax, the regular price of which was 25¢ per lb.

Salt was one of the necessities of life. Thomas Ward, the first Sheriff, made this article at an early date, but he could not compete with the Kanawha product, and gave it up. The old settlers went in groups of four or five on the long journeys to the salines. They carried their provisions with them on horse-back. They killed game along the route and traded it for salt.

Marriages were performed by Justices or Ministers, but neither had the right until they were authorized by the County Court. A wedding was the signal for a neighborhood celebration. People came for miles. The "House warmings" were gay affairs, and usually included an all night dance.

Cattle ran in the woods and were often lost. The Clerk kept a book in which to record "Estrays".

The mail was carried on horse-back from Lewisburg to Big Sandy and the Guyandotte. The mail carrier made the trip in about two weeks, and brought only a few pounds of mail when he did come.

Letters were carried "Postage collect".

People frequently visited the neighboring farms and took part in their "house raisings", "log rollings", "wool pickings", "flax pullings", "fenceings", "clearings", "house warmings", "corn shuckings" and "barn raisings".

Dances were frequent. There were many old time fiddlers who played the old tunes with zeal that will never be surpassed. The Old Virginia reel was the favorite dance. It was sometimes called "French Four". Jack McComas was a famous fiddler, and when he played the "Lady's Fancy", always created a furore of jollity.. He would call for "Partners for Square Dance" or the Virginia Reel and start his orchestral talent on that tune, calling the figures on time, changing the keys of his violin to suit the movements appropriate to the dance. "Nachex Under the Hill" was another favorite tune, better known as "Turkey in the Straw"; but the "Lady's Fancy" was the most inspiring of any, probably of all the others through-out the night, as the youths, maidens, and parents--all were young again-- were eager and impatient for the next set to form. Had the floor been of more inflammable material there might have been danger of setting it afire, such would be the friction of the numerous feet gliding over the surface in keeping time to Jack McComas' exhilarating strains.

Liquor was cheap and plentiful. Even the groceries kept it, and some of us would be a bit embarrassed to know how often our grandfathers patronized them for this very commodity.

I have had access to the old grocery book kept by someone in Barboursville in 1847. Liquor was credited the same as other goods, and some of the best known citizens were buying their drinks on credit, at 5¢ each.

Sometimes, it was even cheaper than this. This may seem strange, but records show for themselves. Cider mills were plentiful, and every smoke-house was likely to contain its barrel of this cider. Some of the farmers had stills and manufactured whiskey without molestation, as the laws then were not as strict as they are now.

There were few wagons, and Thomas Dundas is said to have bought the first buggy to Mud River. Taxes were light. The total County expenses for 1814 were only about eight hundred dollars. Each "tithable" paid sixty-eight and three-fourths cents.

Lead had to be imported from the east. There were many traditions among the farmers of lead mines which were said to be at the Falls of the Guyandotte. There was no real foundation for these stories, but they serve to show the value of this article to our forefathers.

Fred Baumgardner --- 60 May 9, 1909.

Born 1849.

1. Eight years old about 1857.
2. I went to Mrs. Frances Cook in school house on the Henry Shelton farm, opposite the John Griffin lane (now Millard Thornburg).
3. Old blue back speller. Had to know this first. Later, went from first to fourth reader. Have old fourth yet, at home.
4. In use then. Use quills, also. Mose Thornburg used them to twenty or twenty-five years ago.
5. No.
6. Firewood 5 feet long. Neighbors hauled it in, and boys chopped it. Chimney bottom of logs. The upper part sticks and clay.
7. Charles Wilson, dead, Henry Shelton (Logan now), James Wilson, Mr. George Thornburg (Nancy Wilson), Charles Wilson, Sr. George Shelton (dead), Sallie Griffin, (Mrs. Uncle, Huntington) (Mr. Uncle taught here, and the first free school was taught here by Mr. Uncel. He probably taught two schools here after the war.
8. Before the war a man by the name of Bent Armstrong, Miss Hollenback. After the war: John Thornburg, Joe Hisell, Miss Alice Huff, -----Harris.

Report for School Year Ending August 31, 1875.

William Alger Cabell County.

"Cannot something be done for these helpless victims of circumstances? It appears to me there should be a law compelling parents to send their children to school. This may not look democratic, but all dangerous diseases should receive heroic treatment".

Had two colored schools this year: one in Guyandotte, one in Huntington. Complains of injustice of law requiring twenty-five pupils for a colored school, when only ten often compose a white school. Got the negroes to move near Barboursville, and promised them a school, but the law changed and he was accused of misrepresenting facts. Average attendance 33-1/3%.

"Our free school system has some bitter enemies, but they are so few that they are ashamed to say much. Had two graded and fifty-five common schools. He gives a list of teachers.

From Report of General Superintendant of Public Schools,
1873-4.

Cabell County, William Alges, (Supt't) (1873).

"Two years ago what is now the City of Huntington was a corn field. Now we report one graded school and one primary school. The colored people had a school for two months. This was accomplished by uniting with the people of Guyandotte. He recommends three Trustees instead of one.

Teachers and grades of their Certificates:

Allen M. Bryant, 1,	A. H. Melrose, 1,
Miss Georgia Hunt 2,	H. J. Baumgardner, 2,
J. A. Black, 3,	Wm. Belcher, 3,
H. W. Payne, 1,	J. W. Churdh, 2,
Emma McComas, 3,	M. M. Balentine, 3,
T. B. Summers, 3,	P. H. Childers, 3,
Alice Maupin, 4,	J. A. Buckner, 2,
Jas. T. Herndon, 4,	G. C. Shaffer, 2,
C. Morrison, 3,	L. C. Chase, 1,
W. L. Steele, 4,	Dan'l Childers, 3,

J. W. Rousey, 3,
Ella Griffin, 2,
Jas. W. Holt, 2,
H. C. Dunkle, 2,
E. L. Summers, 3,
Wm. H. Chapman, 3,
S. E. Steele, 1,
J. J. Fulks, 2,
Elizabeth A. Hensley, 3,
C. C. Bryan, 3,
R. F. Dusenberry, 1

G. T. Unseld, 1,
W.C.Bramblett, 1,
Mary S. Thornburg, 3,
Ola Stewart, 3,
John Jones (Colored), 3,
William T. Hall,
Normal School, 4.

William Alges, 1874.

Complains of incorrect reports, saying that some of the Boards had paid the Secretary the Ten Dollars without his consent. Speaking of one Trustee, he says: "The man who agrees to board with the Trustee often crowds out a better man". Says "Thirty-nine per cent do not go to school because their parents take no interest in their education. Cannot our Legislature remedy this evil? If their children are suffered to grow up in ignorance, some of them will prey upon society and become a curse to the community in which they live. Cannot the Legislature compel attendance at some school up to a certain age?"

Ordered P grammar thrown out for Harvey's.

"To a person not acquainted with all the circumstances it will appear strange that Cabell County cannot, or does not, send up a more reliable financial report. We started wrong and have been wrong ever since. Some Boards issued drafts for more money than they had. Trustees made contracts with teachers when they had no money to pay them. School orders went begging at 50¢ on the dollar. Teachers and others sued, and there was trouble everywhere. All this was brought about by starting the schools just one year before we were ready. The District of Guyandotte was very much involved, but is now getting matters straightened up, some. Had school officers taken my advice when first given it would have saved all trouble".

"We have thirteen frame, three brick, and thirty-three log houses, valued at \$22,761.12". Lots valued at \$3966.00, actual cost. One new house was erected in the District of Barboursville \$275.00. Land \$20.00.

In most of the schools teachers rendered satisfaction, but in Guyandotte there were several changes". The greatest monthly salary, \$83.33, was paid to Prof. L.C.Chase, Principal of the Huntington Schools..

Teachers Before Board was Organized:

Enoch Swann 3,
Geo. W. Priddy, 2,
Jas. T. Hysell, 1,
H. J. Baumgardner, 2,
John T. Lambert, 3,
S. E. Steels, 1,
S. A. V. Swayne, 1,
Flora Scott, 2,
Mrs. A. F. Delanfy, 2,
A. H. Melrose, 1,
Mary E. Morehead, 3,
L. D. Isbell 2,
Victoria D. Kibbee, 1,
Prof. L.C. Chase, 1,
John Rousey, 2,
J. D. Carter, 2,
Wm. C. Bramblett, 1.

Granted by the Board:

James A. Halsey, 1,
Miss Eliza Neff, 2,
R. D. Leith, 2,
Jas. T. Unseld, 2.

Calvin Morrison, 2,
David B. Childers, 3,
George B. Austin, 5,
H. C. Dunkle, 2,
Rece C. Vaass, 1,
Augusta Clark, 3,
Mollie Wilson, 4,
M. C. Jordan, 3,
E. S. Summers, 3,
John H. Eves, 3,
W. M. Workman, 3,
B. H. Childers, 2,
W. H. Chapman, 3,
J. A. Black, 3,
Jas. F. Herndon, 3,
Wm. A. Carroll, 3,
J. J. Fulks, 2,
E. W. Black, 4,
Miss A. D. Hoff, 2,
J. A. Buckner, 2,
A. M. Bryan, 2,
John Wigal, 1,

Miss Rovilla Jewel, 3.
Miss Mattie Johnson, 3,
Miss Lucetta Blak, 3,
R. W. Lewis, 2,
Alice Hoff, 2,
Wm. H. Farrott, 2,
T. B. Summers, 2,
Rev. J. C. Reece, 2,
Maggie Hatfield 3,
C. W. Payne, 1,
Mollie Williams, 2,
Miss Lou Hill, 3,
James Stewart, 4,
John Laidley, 2,
C. S. Laidley, 4.

WILL OF WILLIAM FULLERTON. MARCH 22, 1832.

Shows that Jane Fullerton was his wife. He was also a slave owner. He owned the following slaves: Aggie, a female; Lewis, a male; Anna a female; Jack, a male, and Richard, a male. He directed that after his death these slaves be set free or hired out until the death of his wife, when they were to be set free.

He gave to his slaves Agga, Lewis, Anna, Jack and Richard one hundred dollars equally divided between them after payment of debts and funeral expenses of his wife. He mentioned his sister Jane Rodgers, and directed that any part of his estate left after other provisions were taken care of to go to take care of her during her lifetime. Then he mentioned another sister, Elenora Ocheltree. The rest of the estate to go to her after the death of the last sister named.

James Jordan, Abia Rece, and Thomas Harman, Witnessed the Will, which was recorded March 25, 1835.

Solomon Thornburg was Administrator.

Colonel Crawford, captured by the Delaware Indians under Chief Wingemund. (See Washington's Journal, Page 206). Washington was deeply grieved. He wrote: "It is with the greatest sorrow and concern that I have learned the melancholy tidings of Col. Crawford's death". Killed at the stake in what is now "Crawford Township, Wyandotte County, Ohio, a short distance N. E. of the present Town of Crawfordsville.

Account of H.B. Bascom is found in Steven's "History of American Methodism, Page 492.

Grand Lodge of W. Va. Page 43 gives proceedings of a Special Communication of the M. W. Grand Lodge of Ancient, Free & Accepted Masons of W. Va. Dec. 18, A. D. 5866. Laid corner stone of M. E. Church, in Barboursville - - - -

Proceedings of Grand Lodge of Virginia.
Volume 1, Pages 533-535.

At a grand an. communication ~~of~~ the Grand Lodge of Virginia., cont' by adjournment and held in the Mason's Hall in the City of Richmond, on the evening of Tuesday, December 15, anno leicis 5818, anno domini 1818: Among other things. A petition and recommendation having been received from several brethren residing in the County of Cabell, praying for a charter to establish a Lodge at Barboursville, in the County of Cabell, by the name of The Western Star Lodge No. 110, appointing John B. Hereford, Master; Peter Scales, Senior Warden, and John Harman, Junior Warden.

THE WILDERNESS ROAD.

Trans - Alleghany Pioneers, 111-14.

Col. Thomas Speed, of Louisville, Ky. through the "Filson Historical Club", has recently issued under the above title, a valuable and exceedingly interesting contribution to the history of the early routes of travel of the first emigrants to Kentucky. He describes two principal routes: One over-land by way of the New River, Fort Chiswell, Cumberland Gap, and the Boone trace; and the other by the Braddock trail to Red Stone, or to Fort Pitt; and thence down the Ohio River by boat.

I think a third, and mixed, route partly by land and partly by water, passing down through this (Kanawha) Valley, deserves to be mentioned, as it was traveled by a good many "in an early day". They came from the settlements along the border or from farther east by way of the frontier settlements to this river by land, and went from here by water, the mouths of Kelly's Creek and Hughes' Creek, where boats were built, being the usual points of embarkation by the early voyagers.

This way went the McAfees, James McCowan, Samuel Adams, Hancock Taylor, Colonel Thomas Bullitt, Douglass, John May, Jacob Skyles, Charles Johnson, , John Flynn, John Floyd, Volney, and others, and many of the men and officers of Lewis' army, who afterwards went to Kentucky, followed this route, having learned it in their trip to Point Pleasant.

A little later, when settlements began north of the Ohio River, Eastern Virginia and North Carolina sent a very large emigration by this route.

The large, early travel by way of Ingles' Ferry made it one of the most valuable properties in that region; and long after, when thriving villages, towns and cities had been built up in this prosperous country, their supplies of dry goods, groceries, hardware, &c. were hauled over this route, first from Baltimore, via Winchester, and afterwards from Richmond and Lynchburg to, finally, as far west as Nashville, in those picturesque "land schooners" or "Tennessee Ships of the Line"--the Conestoga wagons, with their high-bowed and well racked canvas covers, and six horse teams, many of them with the jingling bells that made lively music as they went.

I well remember, between fifty and sixty years ago, , the long droves of these wagons, coming and going and how the arches of tingling bells and red flannel rosettes, swinging gracefully over the horses' shoulders, excited my boyish admiration. The drivers of these teams were a peculiar class: they were a hardy, honest, jolly, good natured set who knew, and were known by everybody on the roads for hundreds of miles. They were fully trusted by their employers, and were popular all along the road.

ORIGIN OF THE COTTON TRADE OF AMERICA.

I will mention here, as an interesting historical fact, on the authority of the late John W. Garrett, the distinguished President of the B & O Railroad, that the beginning of the cotton trade of America was over this road and in these same Conestoga wagons.

The Southern and Southwestern emigrants had began to raise a little cotton at their new homes for domestic use. Their little surpluses were saved up and traded to their merchants to help pay for their groceries and other family supplies, and the country merchants sent a few bags of it; dried fruit, and other country commodities, by these wagons to their wholesale merchants in Baltimore, who took the cotton to encourage trade; but as this was a time when there were no cotton mills in America, they did not know what to do with it. It began to accumulate on their hands, however, and it became necessary to find some use for it.

A meeting of the prominent merchants was called, who traded in this direction, to discuss the matter. After a consideration of the subject, , no other suggestion having met with favor, , an old gentleman present named Brown, a successful Scotch-Irish linen draper, proposed that if the merchants would all contribute to the expense, he would send his son, James, to England to see if it could not be disposed of there. This proposition was agreed to, and James went, taking with him samples of the cotton. On his return he reported that he had not only easily disposed of all they had on hands, but had made satisfactory arrangements for all they might have in the future.

48

James was so impressed with the belief that there was "money in it" that he and his brothers formed a partnership under the name and style of "Brown Brown Brothers" to buy and ship and trade in cotton. The business rapidly grew to large proportions and their wealth increased as rapidly until they established branch banking houses at several of the principal commercial centers on both sides of the water, and the honored names of "Brown Brothers", "Brown Brothers & Company" and "Brown, Shipley & Company" are known to this day all over the commercial world. They are probably worth \$3,000,000.00 and the cotton trade has grown to millions of bales per year. So much for "small beginnings".

About 1840, the State of Virginia, to facilitate and encourage the vast over-land traffic of this route, macadamized the road from Buchanan, the head of navigation on the James River, to the Tennessee line, and Thomas Ingles, the then owner of the Ingles Ferry and grandson of William and Mary Ingles, built a fine bridge over New River (the first to cross New River on the Kanawha), which was afterwards destroyed--during the civil war. The progressive spirit of the age, however, was working a change in all of this. The days of the over-land "schooner" were soon to be numbered, their occupation gone, and the values of Ingles Ferry and Bridge numbered with the things that were past.

About 1855, the "Virginia & Tennessee Railroad" then so called, now known with its connections, as the "Norfolk & Western" was completed and opened. The "iron steed" and "winged lightning" came to the front to fulfill their missions, and the old methods, with Conestoga wagons and stage coaches vanished into the misty realms of the forgotten past.

The railroad, for better grades, crossed New River two or three miles below the old Ingles Ferry route and macadam road.

- NOTES -

In 1754 Robert Dinwiddie, Governor of Virginia, in order to encourage enlistments in the Colonial Army made a proclamation offering bounty lands to those who should enlist, &c.

Eighteen years passed before the claimants made preparations to settle this region. In 1772, George Washington, Colonel Andrew Lewis, Geo. Thurston, William Crawford, Andrew Stephens, Andrew Waggener, Peter Hogg, John Paulson, John West, General Hugh Mercer Dr. Craik, and others came from Williamsburg, Va. via Fort Pitt and down the Ohio, to the mouth of the Kanawha, where they halted and made several surveys on the Ohio, and Kanawha. Mercer's Bottom was surveyed by them, for Gen. Hugh Mercer, and received its name from him. *Mercer's Bottom.*

Another party under Captain John Savage followed from the Virginia capital, and halted at the mouth of the Big Sandy. They selected all the bottom land, up the Big Sandy, and the Ohio for several miles, and engaged George Washington to survey it. But Washington became otherwise engaged and sent Colonel William Crawford. The Earl of Dunmore, who was then Governor of Virginia, signed the patent December 15, 1772. Altogether, there were sixty-one patentees, as the whole tract consisted of 28,627 acres, or four hundred, sixty acres each. This region then was in Fincastle County, Virginia.

Walker J. Sanford came with his father, Robert Sanford, from Orange County, Virginia and settled near Barboursville, in 1809. He remembers that the people of Barboursville, &c. did not care to be bothered with judgments, &c.

NOTES

In 1816, the overseer of the poor bound out to Joseph Day, a tanner in Barboursville, Fetta Collins, until he was twenty-one years old. This is the first record of a tannery, in the village. They raised cotton and flax for clothing. This was spun on the old spinning wheel, and woven by the women, on their looms.

Ben Maxey, Joseph McGonigle and Edmund McGinnis were appointed Commissioners to let out the building of the "stocks and pillories" and the first "whipping post," which stood near the jail. This was May 2, 1815.

Wild hogs roamed the woods; and, unless marked, were killed by anyone.

At times in the very early morning the air would be darkened by pigeons.

*Dec. 17, 1947 - Nannie Lambert
saw literally thousands of crows
passing over our farm.*

NOTES

From William Miller.

Mrs. Mounts now lives on the site of Dr. Wirt McComas, who was a physician long before Dr. Moss. Hibbens lived on the site of the Capt. Turner residence. An old school house stood on the site of the building erected in 1870. A log house, smaller, but similar to the old Lusher house stood on the site of George Miller's residence. It was occupied by a German named Krause, at my first recollection. George Miller tore it down.

F. G. L. Beuhring kept store where King now keeps. The house of entertainment was up-stairs. The John Samuels, or Mose Thornburg property was built about eighteen, forty-five. Samuels was from the Valley of Virginia and was a soldier of 1812.

Mrs. Harrison Dirton lives in the oldest house on the "hill".

QUERY: Why was the Hill called "Dad's Hill" or Dad's Ville"?

Two Englishmen, Church and Turner, came armed (See W. J. Miller) (for story). Old Tom Merritt's barn stood on the main line a little east of the depot. It was a large, hewed log building. Very little change has been made in the John Samuel's house, but a porch has been added.

Another very old log and frame house combined was owned by Grandma Moore, mother of Wilson B. Moore. It stood on the site of W. S. McCutcheon's residence. Perhaps the oldest brick stood on the site of the Stowasser building, formerly used as a Post Office. Negroes lived there. (See Mr. Miller for the story).

W. B. Melton lives in the house on the hill. The old Peter Dirton house stood on the site where Ayers now lives, and John Dirton occupied the toll house at the forks of the road.

52

The main part of the Wilson Moore house, where Miss Elsie Sidebottom now lives, was a weather boarded log house. The old Beuhring Hotel was torn down and the Moore house were torn down and put into the fortifications on the hill. A little log house, torn down by Bailey Thornburg, stood on the site of the present Edgar Hotel. It was rented to different people.

The old Mills house was among the early structures. Billy and Os Mills tore it down to build their present house.

An old, one story log house stood on the corner of Alley and Water Streets adjoining Mrs. Mullen's house. It was used about 1850 for a bar room, and later for a private school conducted by Miss Helen Jewel (?). and others. The Millard Thornburg house was built in, or about the fifties. Just above the house occupied by Huse Warden and owned by Mrs. Slaughter, stood the old M. E. Church South, ceiled by wide, poplar boards. The old Albert Baker house stood where Mrs. Chambers now lives, on Water Street. Baker was a tanner.

The old furniture factory was run by a German on a site just beyond the present Millard Thornburg house. One of the older houses, the Absalom Holderby, a two-story frame, stood on the site of the Dr. Williams property. The present Wash Chapman house was occupied about 1850 by Ephraim Thornburg, grand-father of Os Mills. Old Billy Eggers lived there before this. A family named Releford lived in the old Os Mills house at a very early date..

The house where King now keeps--the old Beuhring Hotel--faced Main Street with a double porch. An "L" extended up Center Street, behind which was a double porch.

The material I am hunting is as follows:

1. From "Select Poems" by Thomas Dunn English, published in 1894. I would like to have the "Logan Grazier", "Guyandotte Musings", and any other material bearing on this region, excepting "Rafting on the Guyandotte", which I already have, and "Gauley River", which is not in this immediate locality.
2. I want a part of an article published in "Appleton's Journal", No.195, Vol. 8, published in New York December 21, 1872. The name of the article is "The Hill Country". It is found on page 699 of the above journal. The part that I want is found on page 701 and 702, the last two columns of page 701, and the first two columns of page 702. I have the magazine in mind, but someone clipped these columns from it.

54

The grand jury made many indictments, most of which were for "A & B" (assault and battery), unlawful gaming, profane swearing, and retailing spirituous liquors. Ferry keepers were frequently indicted for neglect of duty, it being necessary that the public be able to cross the streams.

In accordance with the same policy, road overseers were frequently indicted for not keeping the roads in repair. On one occasion indictments for "A and B" were returned against twelve of the leading citizens, among whom were Elisha McComas, William Merritt, Henry Peyton, and Thos. Ward. On another occasion while Ward, himself, was one of the County Justices he was indicted for playing "three up" on the Court House square.

78^s
Malden, W. Va. Mch. 15, 1912.

Mr. F. B. Lambert,

Milton, W. Va.

Dear Sir:

Replying to yours Feb. 12th, addressed to Mr. J. Q. Dickinson, Charleston, W. Va., which has been referred to us for reply. We beg to refer you to the volumes issued by the W. Va. Geological Survey on the subject of coal and gas, also on the subject of salt. These two volumes will give you quite a lot of history with regard to the salt made in Kanawha County, a great deal of which we have assisted in furnishing data for. We may add that the salt industry has declined here from fifty or sixty furnaces some forty years ago to only one at this time because of the discovery of the salt brines, first on the Ohio River and then in Michigan, and then in Northern Ohio, all of which brines contain a higher per centage of salt than those found in the Kanawha field, although the quality of the salt produced from the brines in those territories is not so good as this. It is on account of this better quality that we have been able to retain some of the more particular buyers of salt; but those who are looking for something cheap buy from the other fields where the cost of production is much less.

If you want further information with regard to the salt industry here in the Valley, would suggest that you go to Charleston and talk to Capt. Wm. Thompkins. He takes a special interest in those things which happened forty or fifty years ago, and was at one time, a salt maker and would no doubt, be glad to tell you all

he knows about it.

With regard to the second request, the old James River and Kanawha Turnpike passed across the river at Charleston, where the present upper wharf is, about at the foot of Capital Street, and probably 200 yards below the present toll bridge.

With regard to the third inquiry. The writer is not able to give you much information with regard to the stage coach days, being but a young man; but it is his understanding that the first Tavern above Charleston was at the Ten Mile House, kept by Malone. The next the Roussman House, kept by a man named Rouseman; then the Stockton House, kept by Aaron Stockton, at Kanawha Falls, and I think the Tyree House at Fayette is the next.

Possibly, however, you had better get hold of some of the older residents, and we expect Capt. Thompkins, mentioned above, could give you the desired information.

Hoping the above may be of service to you, we ask to remain,

Yours truly,

(Signed) { J. Q. DICKINSON & CO.
- - - - -

42-95
57
1. Not easy to build homes at first. Must be hastily built.

Log huts, &c. Smoke house, ash hoppers.

Loft: What it contained, hams, bacon.

The spring house. Cider mills.

Fire buckets. Methods of fighting fire. Rail fences, horse high, bull proof, pig tight.

2. Light pine knots, &c. used the Indians. Burned in fire-place.

Ministers wrote their sermons, &c. Read Bible. Candle making, candle molds, Tallow and beeswax. The wicks made of hemp or tow spun loosely. Candle molds. Wax candles. Bees. Candlesticks. No matches. Fire obtained--how: Flint and steel. Scorced linen used for untinder. It sometimes took a half hour to get a light.

3. The crane. Slave houses. Dutch ovens: A box-like arrangement open on one side, which when in use was turned to the fire". They often stood on legs like other utensils of the day. A little door at the back could be used for convenience in basting the roast. Bread was sometimes baked in them. Probably the best utensil ever invented for baking bread, pies, bisquit, short cake, &c. It was a sort of kettle which stood on legs, and was covered with a heavy lid, &c. It was sometimes called a bake lettle.

Wild bees, honey, &c. Wolf scalps were one of the heaviest drains on the County Treasury.

Describe sugar making.

Fish.

Pumpkins were dried, &c. after the fashion of the Indians.

Huckleberries, blackberries, and grapes grew wild. Apples were dried, or made into apple butter. Apple peelings with cider.

There was more care in cooking. Money was not needed. Why

59

Petit musters held on the second Saturdays of April and October, in the Town of Barboursville. A fine of 75¢ for not attending muster. This was certified to the Sheriff of the County by the Clerk of the Regiment, and by him collected. Thos, Thornburg in 1858 reported a list of \$80.00 of such, and rec'd the receipt of F. G. L. Beuhring. In 1839 between two hundred and three hundred fines were assessed. One man was fined \$5.00 for "not falling into line when required". William Johnson was fined \$2.00 for insulting an officer while on duty at the Regimental muster, 1839. Also, Thomas McComas. Later, the Court of Inquiry ordered the above fine of \$10.00 against William Johnson be remitted, and in lieu thereof that he would be fined \$10.00. Likewise, Thomas McComas \$8.00. The usual fine was 75¢, but sometimes it was \$2.00 and \$3.00. Capt. Thomas C. Hatten was fined \$20.00 for not attending the First Battallion Court of Inquiry, in 1839.

From Dodge's West Virginia

By the census of 1860 Cabell County had a free population of 7715. Slave 305. Total 8,020. Page 38.

On pages 125-7 is given some descriptions bearing on this region.

Page 158. The Covington & Ohio Railroad, designed to connect Richmond with the Ohio River, was completed in 1860 from Covington to the White Sulphur Springs. The work upon the road was continued, and a large sum of money was expended in grading and tunneling and for piers for bridges. The tunnels between the Springs and the Gauley were approaching completion; and from Charleston to the Ohio the road was in a state of forwardness. It was designed to connect at Catlettsburg, on the Kentucky line with the road; thence to Lexington, which was graded and intended to be promptly finished as a section of a through line to the West and Southwest.

A road through the Kanwaha Valley without reference to through business, was recognized as a necessity in the development of the interests of this inexhaustible depository of natural wealth, and credited as a "paying" investment. In a normal condition the affairs of the road would at the present time, have been completed, and in receipt of a heavy trade. It must, eventually, be built. When, it would scarcely be safe just now to predict.

Farm Products according to Census of 1860.

Cabell Co.	Wheat	Rye	Corn	Oats	Tobacco	Irish	Butter
					acco	Potatoes	
	65715-	356	- 248210	-18717	68,578	--11119	45230
	Slaughtered animals				49,736.	Page 148.	

61

PLEASE POST.

All Teachers: It is expected each teacher will have some kind of exercises at close of term. We will have grade cards at close of term somewhat like we had last year, and each teacher will prepare these cards before the last week of school and have them ready for the inspection of the Superintendent if called upon. If not called for before evening of last day you will distribute one set to pupils and return one to office. It will be necessary to see that these cards are correct. If any errors are detected, orders will be held until they are corrected and properly delivered. Do not fail to mark deficiencies with red ink. All keys will be returned to office unless other arrangements are made by the Superintendent. The property must be left in good condition, and the buildings locked, maps rolled up and books left in house unless otherwise notified.

With your next report you will furnish a complete list of books in your library. If you have not already been furnished with library blanks you will receive them in this list. You will please paste one in each book.

Respt yours,

F. B. Lambert.

62

- CIDER MILL -

All girls could knit, spin wool, and flax into yarn, weave cloth jeans. Also used hemp.

Spinning was useful to while away the dull monotony.

2nd ps

-PATRICK HENRY MORRISON - 80 YEARS OLD SEPT. 1910³

Interview by Edgar Swan January, 1910.

1. Patrick Henry Morrison Martha, West Va.
Samuel Kelley Do Do
Robert Dillon, Melissa, Do
2. See below.
3. (a) In old, abandoned houses anywhere, generally three or four miles apart.
(b) One located near B.F.Morrison's house. The first school house for the purpose, of which I recollect, was built about 1845 or 1846.
(c) This house was started as a five cornered house.

A log was cut out on one side for a window. A shelf was placed under it for a writing desk. The children had a long seat under this. Dirt floors, or puncheons. The roof, of boards. Everybody assisted in building. 1846(?). Located on what is known as the George McComas farm. After about four feet the house had only about four sides. The chimney extended clear across. It was very dark.

(d) Elisha Seamonds was the first teacher here. He was a very old man. Whitfield Bryant and Michael Loller were old teachers. Loller was a great fisherman, and was very wicked. He cursed the children at times. Wages about \$15.00 varying with the conditions. A single man was usually paid in cash. A married man, a variety. Nearly all were old men. There were no women teachers.

(e) Books: Old Elementary Speller, Fourth Reader, goose quill pens, made and sharpened by the Teacher. A boy threw his quill at

the teacher one day. It stuck in his cheek. The teacher did not whip him--for some reason. Ink, indigo. Pencils, slate. No lead pencils. No women.

(f) About three months in fall, closing a little after Christmas.

- 65
1. I went to school about 65 years ago.
 2. On Cabell Creek near David Hatfield's house. The house burned down, as often happened, and the school was finished at mouth of Tom's Creek in Hez Swanns, teacher. Reuben Thacker was my first teacher--about twenty-five years.
 3. Same as above.
 4. Don't remember.
 5. No; the hole was open, and the snow sometimes blew in.
 6. Same as before. Rocks and mud were used as a protection for logs in fifth corner. The upper part was of sticks and mud.
 7. A. J. Hensley is all that I recollect living. I went to school also, with Judge Samuels. Davy Ward now dead.
 8. Answered.
 9. They never went to school a day.
 10. I recollect of none.
 - 11.
 12. Before my time, but of very poor quality.
 13. Came as early as possible, and stayed all day. Kept no time. Program.
Read
Write, and repeat all day.
Spell.
 14. Bull pen. Two-cornered cat and "Fox and Hounds" on way home. Punishments: Make a pen, or jail of floor benches for light offenses. For heavy offenses everybody got whipped. without exception.
Billy Bramblett stayed, and taught here since the war, for

66
five or six years. The house stood near the present Booten
Creek School over on the point, among the cedars.

Frank Adams, Age 65. Born near Barboursville, on the Jarrell Farm.

1. Peter E. Love, Jos. Merritt, Sam Kelley, John Morris, Wilson Rogers, Jos. Hash (Since war), Alex. Porter in Milton, Wesley Hinchman, Tyree Thompson, , William Gibson, William Seamonds, Jas. Dundas, Ben Saunders, if alive, Ben F. Swann, O. S. Mills, Geo. Thornburg, Mahala Douglas, Ona.
2. See below
3. At Barboursville at beginning of war. I was seventeen. Locations changed.

The Miller school on Mud River on Black's Branch, in Grant was one of the most usual. It was on land now owned by Spence Adkins. I first attended on Lower Creek, Grant ^{District} on what was then Jake Bryant's farm.

The Barboursville house was a parsonage in the present graveyard. Cash Merritt's family is buried on, or near the site. It was a two-story frame (1860). It was torn down during the war. Its size was about 16' X 30'. Heated by a large stove like a burnside. Burnt coal. It was an old house and never had been painted. Torn down since the war.

Frank Adams.

Mrs. Adams says she went to school in an old house on the present site of Ayer's Mill. Also in a kitchen where Harriett Anderson's house stands. It was torn down in 1863. In 1864 Mose Thornburg and wife kept school in their own house.

A man by the name of Bent kept the parsonage. I went to Dad Bryant, at Ona (Poar's Hill). He was a drunkard, and died in the poor house a few years ago. Col. John McInnis was another. He would lick the boys severely. Mrs. Adams attended her first school to him up on what is now the Tom Edwards farm. Charley Payne was teaching before the war.

TEXTS: Old Elementary, Ray's Arithmetic, goosequill pens, ink, copperas and _____? Slate rock for slate pencils. Lead pencils were coming into use. John Stroup(s mother did have an old copy book. The old teachers did not like steel pens, which came into use about the time of the war. Also had a few geographies. A pupil was required to commit the spelling book to memory. Drill exercises in penman-ship were emphasized.

TERMS: Six ~~weeks~~ to three months, generally summer. Sometimes winter. In country schools I have seen them drag up wood with ozen. The children cut it

The house on Merritt's Creek was built about 1866. I think it and the Mill Branch school, then called Estes Branch after a man by the name of Estes, are the two oldest houses I know of. The Swamp Branch was another one. All were built of logs. In November, 1867, a free school was taught near Mud River church by Miss Agnes Dundas. Henry Dunkle taught on Merritt's Creek; Harriett Hall at Swamp Branch. Bob Dusenberry was a prominent teacher. He was a New Yorker. William Bramblett, also. Melrose came since the war.

1. 59 years ago.
2. At the Bryant school on Lower Creek to a man who had all his toes frozen from a drunk.
3. Same as above.
4. Before the war.
5. Yes, in school houses---the Black school, I believe.
6. By wood Stick and clay, Rough stone.
7. Judge Ferguson and Judge Samuels at a very early date.
8. See above.
9. Went in Old Virginia, near Lynchburg.
- 10 William Algeo, I believe.
11. Yes; in town.
12. Glass was in use.
13. Instruction was largely individual. We spelled in classes.
14. Same as Morrison's story. Pupils went as far as five miles.
Morris Swann walked from Nigger Hill to Barboursville

575
Robert Dillon (B.F.) Davis Creek

Age 77, June 9, 1910. Born 1833.

The oldest school I recollect of was on Pea Ridge (Mt. Zion Church, also for school). I was six or seven years old. Elija Simmons taught there, and I remember hearing the children say he would throw clubs or sticks at them. Stood near the grave yard (Mt. Zion).

I first went to school near Cross Roads to James Dunkle. He was a small, consumptive man, but was great on the rod. It was four miles to my home on the head of Four Pole. It was in the autumn, after crops. The next, I believe, was a one eyed man named Briggs. He was from Ohio. Dunkle was a native and was grandfather to William Dunkle. This completed my education.

On Davis Creek one of the Cobons (Cobourn), John, I believe, taught in an old stable near Andrew Bryant's on the Lake Hoback's place (L.J.H.) This was about 1848 to 1850.

During the war, about '62 or '63 I helped build a school house (used for church) almost on site of present house. This stood until after the war, when it was torn down and moved on Middle Fork of Davis Creek and used for a dwelling by John Dillon; and later Jeff Bolen used it for a kitchen. Since making the above statement M. Dillon states that his house was built about 1859. Description: Size 20' X 25'; roof boards; floor rough lumber from Buffington's old mill on Four Pole at mouth of Grape Vine. First house, windows two on a side 8 X 10.

The road was on back side of present house; Hence, first house faced road. I believe Henry Dunkle taught here, He lives in Huntington. He was a preacher.

The two houses stood here several years. The second house was a good log house. It cost \$400.00, and James Eden had the contract. This was ceiled over-head, but the first one was not. The second house had seats made by a carpenter. William Dillon went in the second house and gives the following list of teachers: Henry Dunkle, Doc Unsel who taught several terms, Rev. Calvin Reece, Ervie McComas, several terms, Maggie Erwing. Later Fred Beuring, Andy Melrose (1803-9). This was second school Salina Aills. John Thornburg, Sr. Nan Hensley, two, R.F. Brammer, two or three, F.B. Lambert, two terms, Ona Doss, Vida Hensley, Etha Nash.

Mrs. Viola France, age 80 March 1909. Born on Guyan River. Father's name, Ralph Smith. Came from Virginia, via Kanawha, was an overseer for a negro plantation in Kanawha two years, or more. Concerning Long Branch school says:

The first school built at Long Branch was a free school and was built just after the war. Billy Bramblett taught the first two schools there, Doc Unsel next, R. F. Brammer. (Unsel kept his switch) (in his boot leg--Claud Dillon). Mrs. Unsel lives in Huntington yet. He made his own fire, taught all day, gave no recess, called "Books"--Claud. This house was a good log house.

I went to school on Merritt's Creek in an old cabin down in the hollow below the present house. Dirt floor.

Mrs. France.

Robert Dillon.

Paul Davis, John Ward, and ----- Cook are the oldest settlers on this creek, so far as I know. Cook lived up Eden Branch. Ward at mouth of Eden Branch.

Indian relics were found here. I have seen bear on Four Pole. Billy Davis caught one in a trap on Booten's Creek. It walked away with the trap and he caught it. The county gave bounties. There was a red fox seen near Dillon's this fall.

People used to go to Richmond, to Orleans, to Cincinnati. Hoop poles were boated to New Orleans. They loaded apples and produce. This was for near Ohio River, but hoop poles were taken from Davis Creek.

Many people traded to Guyan. We had a very good road from Four Pole. Dow Hughes was taking a barrel of molasses to Guyandotte and, going down the Meadows hill he hitched his horse to rear end of sled and backed down the hill. Guyandotte was the nearest Post Office. Had to pay postage on delivery, 5¢. P. Smith; Dudley Smith)later), and John W. Hite kept principal stores.

- 4 -

calicos, green coffee, sugar, &c. Andy J. Kenan kept a harness shop and made saddles there. Had hoe-downs with plenty of liquor. I have seen as many as seventy-five to one hundred hands come to a quilting and log rolling together. Wool pickings, flax pullings, singing schools sometimes, house raisings.

Weddings were gay affairs. A paddy was made and set up outside or just on the road to scare them. There were two mills on Four Pole, one at mouth of Grapevine, run by P.C. and Addington Buffington, and the other near the head of the creek, owned by Bruno Medley, a Dutchman.

The oldest settlers on Four Pole were: Benjamin Ray, where Medley Toppins now lives. Edward Shy lived near where Carter's store is now. I can remember when there was but three houses from mouth of Price Creek to Guyandotte. These were Billy Toppins, Edward Shy, and _____ Summers, at Cross Roads. We crossed at the mouth by ferry or walked over on some boat gunwales. We also crossed at Turner Landing (Joseph Turner, later Thos. Turner).

It was near the war before cook stoves came into use around here. They were step stoves.

Preacher Burwell Spurlock lived on Twelve Pole (Wayne). Stephen Spurlock lived in Wayne, on Beech Fork. They were considered the best preachers around. William McComas, on McComas farm, was also a big gun. Was also a lawyer. Mt. Union church was held on Crump farm on Pea Ridge, but meetings were held in private houses. Dr. Girard Ricketts and Dr. McCorkle, of Guyandotte were the oldest physicians. The Bowen cemetery, on Wayne, is the oldest cemetery. The Toppins cemetery where Marvin Crook lives is old

- 5 -

There are old graves on Eden's place, Davis Creek, but no tombstones. There are tombstones near Jeff Bolen's place.

At the Court House were fights, foot races, horse races, horse trading. Came for twenty miles, and more. Had whiskey. Voted at Guyandotte, Barboursville.

I recollect no slaves on Four Pole or Davis Creek.

I favored the division of the state.

Groceries and taverns kept liquor. Had no saloons. Whiskey retailed at 30¢ to 37-1/2¢ per gallon, and 12 1/2¢ by barrel. There was very little money.

Principal crops: Cereals, pumpkins and potatoes, flax, some hemp. No cotton.

Mrs. France says her mother raised much cotton, and they would weave as much as one hundred yards each spring. There were slaves below us, held by the Witchers. Col. John Witcher, Union, lived about one mile below us on Guyan. "Clawhammer" Wicher, rebel, lived in Wayne.

Robert Dillon.

People were saving. They traded in stock. We had as many as eight to ten deer in our smoke house at once. Not many bear. Many wild turkeys; could hear them almost any morning in spring. Wild geese used to pass and sometimes do, yet. Pigeons blackened the sky every mast year. Black birds and ravens, also. A few wharf rats

Dan and Bill Stevens on Four Pole made chairs--split bottom. Riley Childers made bed-steads and tables. He lived on Merritt's Creek. No farmer's meetings. Raised seedling peaches. Many sheep raised in the woods. No wool market except at home. Timber was run to Cincinnati and Louisville. Tan bark to Cincinnati. Had a saw mill at mouth of Guyan run by steam. A man named Clark ran it awhile. About ~~1811~~ 1861 a well or two were bored on Four Pole. No results. Brick was made at Guyandotte by James Steward and Bircher Steward, brothers

Old John Laidley was very influential. He was the grandfather of the late John Laidley and was Prosecuting Attorney a long time.

SWANN GRAVEYARD --- Nigger Hill.

Nancy Ann, wife of died Oct. 2, 1851. aged 68 years

(Note) John Morrison near by. No stone.

Margaret, wife of Wesley Hinchman Feb.11, 1893, 44 yrs. 10
mos, 4 ds.

Beverly Swann, June 6, 1877 aged 38 yrs. 4 mos. 29 ds.

(Raiswed where Nathan Staton now lives).

Josiah Swann, July 15, 1871; 75 yrs. 9 mos. 11 ds.

Father of beverly.

Leven G. Swann, Jan. 10, 1842; 77 yrs. old.

Elizabeth, wife of above. Dec.15, 1839 aged 73 yrs.

These are parents of Josiah Swann.

James Gillingwater, died March 15, 1856, in the hundredth
year of his age. A Revolutionary soldier.

By John Barbour:

Jacob Bamhart died when my mother was eleven months old. He was my grandfather and died about 1812 and is buried up on the Mathers' farm.

My grandfather Barbour lived and died on Twelve Pole. Name, Elisha Barbour.

Jas. Gillingwater is buried about fifty feet from house now occupied by John Barbour. Mrs. Will Peyton (murdered) by her husband is buried about fifteen feet beyond him. His gravestone is broken in several pieces, but I have the exact wording.

So far as known, Capt. William Merritt was the first settler in what is now the Town of Barboursville. His name begins to appear in the Court Records in September, 1801, when he applied to the County Court of Kanawha County for a writ of "ad quod damnum" to condemn an acre of ground on the "banks of Mud River near to his dam for a water grist mill".

Just when he came is not known. Evidently he had been here for some time, for he already had a dam built. This mill was located on the site of all the later Merritts on the north side of Mud a few hundred yards from the mouth.

About the same time Manoah Bostick settled on Mud River, opposite the mouth of Fudge Creek. He was active in public affairs.

Sig and John G. Miller, who were Germans, kept store in what is now the College Music Hall. At first it was a frame; but this building was moved away and the present building was erected on the same site.

There are but few of the old residents now living in Barboursville, and their memory extends back to about 1850. From them I have gathered a partial view of the town at that time.

On what is now Main Street there were but few houses. The one now occupied by James Brady was standing. Thomas Merritt lived there. He was a farmer and fed hogs and other stock going east. It was originally a log house but has been mutilated and improved beyond recognition. Another was the frame now occupied by Mr. Kelly and adjoining James Brady's residence. Among others was the house in which Mr. Charley Love now lives. Also the brick near Mr. Love recently used as a men's dormitory, while the old tan yard building seemed about as venerable then as now.

Mr. P. A. Vallandigham now owns another of the old dwellings. These were about all the buildings found on Main Street, until we reach the business district. W. C. Miller and Thomas Thornburg kept on the corner where George Thornburg now keeps. The large Merritt Hotel, run by William Merritt, built of brick and having on each side a long, double porch stood of the residence now occupied by G. E. Thornburg. Mat Thompson kept a store between the Thornburg store and the present livery stable. Oscar Mathers kept near the site of White Drug Company's establishment. In the new addition stood a building called the McVickers House on the site of the dwelling now occupied by Mrs. Dime Cummings. The tannery was run by Baker & Westhoff. Long before this an old tannery was located near the present residence of W. S. McCutcheon. One Joseph Day was a tanner here in 1816. The old Lusher home, yet standing, in the alley behind Capt. Turner's residence was an ancient affair, even to that day. John Hibbens who

Children went without shoes until they were twelve years old. Girls, especially in the country, had one pair of shoes a year, and they sometimes carried them to church. Calico dresses were a luxury and the girls had to earn them before they got them.

In winter, women wore Linsey dresses, while the men wore hunting shirts and wampises with a belt. Girls wore bonnets made of made of calico, gingham, or cotton, although at a later date those who were able could buy silk, or other fine clothes.

The juries did not like to fine for "A & B", and many verdicts were for one cent. Fights were rather popular, and the neighborhood "bully" was looked upon as a kind of hero. They sometimes chewed off fingers or an ear. Gouging was sometimes practiced. It consisted of skilful applications of a long thumb nail, especially grown for the purpose. With a little practice it was easy to remove an eye, or wound the cheek. One of these encounters is said to have taken place on the the streets here but it did not result in serious injury.

WILLIAM NATHAN CLAY.

William Nathan Clay, the subject of this sketch, was born in Wayne County on the head of Beech Fork, near Wayne Court House April 3, 1865. During his younger days he followed farming and timbering. He came to Cabell County about twenty-three years ago and settled in what is now South Barboursville, where he remained for one year. He moved to Russell Creek, and remained there ten years. Twelve years ago he moved to his present farm on the Barboursville-Salt Rock pike, where he has since resided. He married Nevada Marian Gilkinson and has a large family consisting of five sons and seven daughters. He has served as Justice-of-the-Peace in Barboursville District for the past nine years, having been elected for the third term. He has also served as Secretary of the Board of Education for the same length of time.

Squire Clay is a man of strong convictions and never fails to do what he considers to be his duty, regardless of the opinions of others or the consequences to himself. His decisions as Magistrate are always marked with fairness, and it is very seldom that the parties are not satisfied with his judgment. As a farmer he is quite prosperous. He is closely connected with the business life of Barboursville. He is a member of the Board of Trade and takes great interest in the welfare of the town, generally.

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-ALBERT RUDOLPH FIELD, SON OF JAMES L. AND MARY FIELD-

Albert R. Field, born on the 14th day of April, 1881 at Hurricane Bridge, Putnam County, West Virginia. Was educated in the public schools at Milton, and also had advantage of the High School courses at that place. He entered the United States at the outbreak of the Spanish-American war of 1898, serving entire enlistment of three years in foreign service, being honorably discharged with record of distinguished service. Albert R. Field was a son of J.L. Field, formerly of Lynchburg, Va. who came to this section immediately after the close of the war of 1861--65. Was married to Miss Mary Hicks of Kanawha County, in 1864. Parents both of English descent Grandfather, James Field, Sr. was a resident of Bedford County, Va. prior to the civil war and owner of a valuable estate which was operated by his numerous slaves. Immediately after the Emancipation Proclamation, which materially reduced his circumstances he and his sons emigrated to the new state, settling at Charleston, W. Va.

James Field, Sr. had the distinction of having sons in both armies during the civil war. James Field, Jr. was the father of twelve children, being equally divided in sex. He had the advantages of an education in the Richmond schools, and immediately after coming to this country entered the mercantile and timber business which he followed until his death, which occurred at Milton, W. Va. in 1889.

A. R. Field, immediately after being discharged from the army took up his residence at Ashland, Ky. where he entered business with the elder brother, T. A. Field, as a traveling salesman. A year later however, on account of failing health, he retired from this position and went to Mingo County, W. Va., where he entered the retail mercantile business and which he followed until 1910, and then removed to

Barboursville, W. Va. taking up the general insurance business.

A. R. Field was married to Miss Martha Jones, daughter of Mr. and Mrs. William Jones, of Hamlin, W. Va. Jan'y 2, 1907, and was the father of one child (not living).

Guyandotte, Va. April 3, 1864.

My Dear Daughter:

I know you think the time long since I have written to you. I know that you hear from us almost every week either through Miss Nannie W. or some of Mr. Hite's family is the reason I have not written ere this. I have been waiting for some wheat that I have purchased up the Guyandotte River to come to ship it to Cincinnati for about three weeks and thought that I could wait until I went to Cincinnati. As soon as that comes down and I get it shipped I want to go down. Your Ma and I have lived here at your Uncle John's since the 28th of January. All are well here and at Mr. Wilson's. Mr. W. was in town yesterday. Your Cousin's school is out. Mrs. Mason expects to start to Steubenville, Ohio this week. May is going up with her. The other children will remain here. She expects to stay up some time, probably until the last of June. Your brother Lawrence wrote your Ma on the 15th to 21st of February from Lewisburg, Va. and the 7th of March from Wytheville, Va. He expected to find Waldo at Wytheville. He had just left the day before he arrived for East Tennessee. He called on Waldo Reece Friends, and they told him they expected to receive a letter from W. every day. One came the next day after his arrival. He wrote that the command was at Greenville, near Morristown, East Tennessee. He was in good health and excellent spirits. Lawrence has just heard from your brother Victor and sister Helen and family. They was well sand Col. Webb and Doctor Mortimer Laidley and family.

Your brother Victor is still in the Army and Col Henry Webb your brother L. is very sanguine that the South will succeed in ~~gaining~~ its independence. They are more determined than ever

he says, in fighting as long as there is an enemy on southern soil. He says they have had a hard time this winter. Your mother received your brother Waldo's picture that he had taken last summer, with little Sallie Cook by his side. She will send that up by your Cousin Saline Mason, when she comes up also and the money to get some things for you and some free sugar for you and Miss Bettie W.

Soldiers are still here and at Cable C.H. Albert Russell came in to see his family and was taken prisoner last night and and brought into town this morning. They caught W.B. Moore and Warren Reece and had them on a steamer, taking them to Wheeling. Nine miles below they jumped over-board and swam ashore and made their escape, so says report. A soldier was killed by someone near where they was taken and they was suspected for shooting him, and it is supposed that if they had not made their escape they would have been shot at Wheeling.

Miss Helen Laidley is going up about the 1st of May to the seminary at Steubenville, Ohio, to school. I will write you again as soon as I go to Cincinnati. I may get off this week. My kind regards to Miss Bettie W.. From your ever devoted and affectionate

Parent,

(Signed) E.H. Walton

SCHOOL JOURNAL QUESTIONS.

John L. Bowen.

1. Very old settlers Major Drown, on Long Branch near mouth. Edward Elmore lived on Long Branch. Has been dead about 25 years. "Judge" Henry Smith, where Henry France now lives. John de Boyd lived here. John De Boyd, his son, now lives above Wm. Donahue's on Long Br. James France, Henry's father, where Henry now lives. Acie Geer on ridge this side of Henry France place (Elihu Bias lives close. Harvey Walker lived at head of Long Branch on divide at left coming this way. House standing. These are the oldest men of whom I have any recollection. Old man Thorniley died here a few years ago.
2. Long Branch has always went by its present name, Davis Cr. was named for a man named Davis, who lived on the old Jeff Bolin place. He was probably the first to settle there, or among the first.
3. Indian relics have been found on the bottoms here, such as arrow heads, tomahawks. No mounds. (Query: Why always found on bottoms? My mother's grandfather claimed to have killed an Indian near the Falls.
4. About the only dialect is the old Virginia "brogue". It is dying out and the people are coming to talk, think, and act alike. Education and a mingling of the elements is the cause. The most of the stories are hunter's stories. One hunter would "spell" another by going into the woods and twist a withe to spoil the other's luck in hunting. Jake Smith told many hunting stories. Salt was a great item. The

old settlers went horseback to the Kanawha for salt. They followed the bridle paths. Some nine or ten usually went together. They carried provisions and killed game on the way.

5. Man came here on account of the game. The first comers were probably squatters or adventurers. They were glad to have visitors come for their company. They found bear, deer, turkey, panthers, wolves (the sheep had to be penned according to my mother, who lived at Falls of Guyand River). I have killed wild cats. Killed one one night at head of Long Branch, near Charley Stevenson's new house. It was just a year or two after the war. My father was a great deer hunter. Hunters reported that the wolves would come close to their camp fires and howl. BOOKS: Bible, Life of Washington, They were scarce. A bounty was given for fox scalps, 50¢ to 75¢. Just a few years ago the neighbors made up a fund to pay for hawk's heads. I held the money and always had heads cut off. The price was 30¢ to 15¢, according to age. The earlier families were larger than now. People would go to the South (Louisiana) to work in the timber in the swamps. Many never returned. My brother was brought back dead. Fever killed him.

7. Hunting caused quarrels to get salt. Physicians were scarce.

During my father's sickness we had to send to the mouth of Guyan for Dr. Ricketts. The route to Guyandotte was down by Jacob Plybon's, up the mountain, out the ridge to head of Four Pole and down it, two miles across ridge to another fork of same, down it two miles and over to Guyand River, and down it to Guyandotte. We crossed in a ferry at the Turner Landing about one and one-half miles above Guyandotte. My father had a store. We bought all kinds of produce: Eggs 5¢; chickens, butter 10¢, lard 2¢, furs, hides of beeves; furs 50¢--75¢, according to the quality; seng, green 10¢ a pound. He dried it.

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He also bought snake root and yellow root--probably.

Furniture was generally made here. They brought almost ~~any~~ everything in the way of bedding, clothing, and cooking utensils on horse back. Trade from Guyandotte consisted of coffee, sugar. Considerable sugar was handled here; in fact, most of it was made), calico, domestic muslin, &c, some shoes and boots. Many made them. My father "clarified" seng. It was a considerable process. Wash clean, put in a basket, steam in a covered open barrel, set over a boiling kettle. It was set in here in a basket, supported on sticks. The barrel was covered. It was next taken and dried on trays in the dry house. It brought a high price, but the Chinese war lowered the price and caused him to lose money. He had buyers at Wayen C.H.

2. We had two grist mills on Beech Fork and one at the Falls of Twelve Pole near, or at Dixon, seven miles from my father's. The latter ground flour (dark) as well as corn. It was a good frame. They had an old fashioned saw mill. The saw moved up and down like a whip saw. The others were corn crackers. The nearest one sometimes made a rough flour. All were water mills. The smaller ones would probably cost now \$150.00 to \$200.00. The dam was the principal cost. Jesse Spurlock was the owner of the large mill. The next one was Jacob Smith. This was at Bowen. The next, eight or nine miles above Bowen, was owned by Leander Gilkerson. The one at Falls is ~~at~~ still in use. It passed into the hands of Bill Turner. Later to Mr. Preston, the present owner. It still runs by water, but uses the roller process.

The old house known as the Alderson Bowen homestead is one of the oldest buildings here, if not the oldest. It is still standing. Jacob Smith owned the first blacksmith shop, at Adkinsville P.O.

People used two wheeled carts then. Blacksmiths built them.

9. One at Dusenberry Dam, one at Turner Bridge at mouth of Guyan (the suspension claimed to be the oldest in the United (States). Adkinsville, now Bowen, was the first Post Office so far as I recollect. The mail came from Guyandotte about once a week.

11. No quilts were made, as blankets were woven. Church gave opportunity to show the fine home spun, or calico. There were log rollings, house or barn raisings. They used to have singing ~~xxkx~~ schools. Sang the songs of the States and Counties. A Mr. Dunkle was an early singing master. The men met and told their hunting stories; the women to hear their chats.

Furniture consisted of home-made beds, cupboard tables ~~plxn~~ plain, stools, shelves in corner for dishes, feather beds, skillet, pot, frying pan, oven and skillet and lid. No stove. Father had the first stove in the neighborhood. It was the wonder of the community. No food was canned. It was generally dried. Pumpkin was dried.

Wash Hatfield was a fighter, but often got the worst of it. Whiskey was sold at my father's. He was a Magistrate, and on law days crowds would gather, and fights resulted. "Fists and skull" was the usual method. Sometimes a rock was thrown by a coward. Dances--"hoe-downs", were frequent, and often lasted all night. Liquor was usually on the ground. The promise of the dance hastened the work. The men divided into squads, elected a Captain and competed for the amount of work or ran races.

12. The first churches, in my recollection, were the ones before mentioned. Private houses were often used. They were also used for schools.

Burl Spurlock was a very early preacher. Also, his brother Stephen. Reuben Booten was also an early preacher. I used to go with my mother to church week days. John T. Johnson was another very old preacher. Basket meetings came in later. No camp meetings have ever been held. Worship was more old fashioned. Feet washings were held after the war. This was a Methodist neighborhood. This was a rebel community--three to one. No religious debates. Other denomination were allowed to preach. Not so much antagonism between denominations as at present. Steven Spurlock, Methodist, used to preach for the Baptists. He had to sit aside when they took the sacrament. Burl Spurlock was believed to be the deepest man of these preachers. People came eight or ten miles to attend church.

13. People were more healthy then now. They lived differently. Ate wild meat and rough food. I remember but few cases of consumption. Physicians were seldom called. Herbs, roots, &c. were used. The graveyard is at Bowen. Many graves are forgotten. The grave yard is across the line, in Wayne County. There is a physician at Bowen now but some go to Barboursville and Guyan. Know of no drug stores before the war.

14. My father, Alderson Bowen, was a Justice-of-the-Peace. John

Alford was Tax Collector at one time, during the war. He is said to have made off a bill for taxes whether he had any, or not. He lived above Barboursville. Flood McKendree kept the "Poor farm". He was father of the present incumbent.

Election fights were numerous. My first vote was cast on Miller's Fork (now Wayne County) at the house of Acie Booten. We voted by "Aye" and "Nay". An officer of the election would ask: "Who do you vote for?".

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A man by the name of Elkins, on Beech Fork, made split bottom chairs and sold them at about fifty cents each. He also turned posts for bedsteads and made the old, corded bed. Price \$4.00 to \$5.00

The lumber in my house was sawed that way.

It was fine, yellow poplar. Some trees were four or five feet diameter, but this was too large for the whip saw. They used timber o square 12 to 15 inches. Tan bark was not cut. I have seen lynn bark used for a ceiling, or loft. No timbering from here.

The first saw mill I ever saw was at the Falls of Twelve Pole ~~Woods~~ Woods often caught fire from clearings, lor hunter's camps. Timbering commenced here in earnest about thirty to thirty-five years ago. The poplar timber went first. It was floated out, usually, sometimes rafted in Beech Fork. Later saw mills cut lumber and staves. Timber is now nearly gone. Oil barrel staves were rived by hand, and farming was neglected.

27. Coal has only been used to any extent ~~eight~~ or ten years. A small bank was opened long before the war on my father's place. It was used by the blacksmith shop. My father had a private set of tools.

42. Good roads are the greatest need at present.

44. Hughey Bowen was probably the most influential citizen here.

His influence was felt over the whole county. He was Sheriff. He was my grand-father. Some of his children around Wayne ~~for~~ Court House might furnish his photograph. Address: Hugh Bowen, Wayne, W. Va.; Sim Bowen, Wayne, W.Va.

Old soldiers still living:

Union, Jacob Plybon, Martha, W. Va.

Rebel: David Bowen, Martha, W. Va.

(See old Davy Adkins, near Morrison's store on Beech Fork).

189 pieces
this sheet out

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Barboursville, W.Va. Dec.6, 1947.

Professor of Archaeology,
University of Illinois,
Urbans, Ill.

Dear Sir:

I am writing a local history of Cabell County, W. Va. and parts of Lincoln and Wayne Counties in the same state. I have been for several years collecting material for this book. Just now I am working on the antiquities. Am enclosing a quotation from Henry Howe's book. He was an early collector of local history in the States of Virginia and Ohio.

This description seems to be of a race different from either the Mound Builders or the Indians, and as he says resembles that of Central America or other southdrn countries on this continent. I would be glad to have your interpretation or explanation of these remains. So far as I know, there is now no remaining sign that they ever existed, as this land has all been cultivated for more than hundred years; there were slight signs of it fifty to seventy-five years ago.

Very truly yours,

Fred B. Lambert.

FBL/H.

16. Debating societies were in every school. They met at night. Men came for miles to attend. newspapers were so scarce that I have no recollection of any.

17. My father had a saloon when I was quite small. He kept it three, or four years. He kept it in the house now occupied by French Bowen. The addition in which it was kept is now torn away. He, likely, quit on account of we boys. Another one was kept by _____ Adkins, above the mouth of Bowen Creek on Beech Fork, in Wayne County. A man named Baumgardner (father Jim in Huntington) kept an Inn at Guyandotte on Main Street and Bridge Street.

19. Slaves were held on Beech Fork by Stephen Spurlock, Jefferson Bowen, my uncle, and Isaiah Adkins, Billy Adkins, Elijah Adkins. This was in Wayne. Steven Spurlock had two--a man and woman. My uncle, three; Zere Adkins one, a woman; Billy Adkins, one; Elijah Adkins, one. They were treated about as well as the whites and did farm work and household work. The one my uncle had started to run off and threatened to drown herself, but was soon brought back. She was "kind o' cranky" and was probably fooling.

Work hands are scarce. My man, whom I have kept two years, left me the day before yesterday. Richard Anderson (Slave) and his wife Clara, a fine cook, stayed on the Jeff Bowen farm long after the war, two or three years, or longer. They would have dibners and invite the whites.

20. No renting leases were given for five years for clearing the land. Now, it is one to two. Neighbors sometimes swapped work day about.